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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

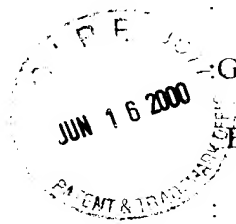
IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Naoko TSUJI et al

SERIAL NO. : 09/220,691

FILED: December 28, 1998

FOR: METHOD FOR INHIBITING HAIR
GROWTH



GROUP ART UNIT: 1651

EXAMINER: Jon P. Weber, Ph.D.

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated March 16, 2000, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 5. ✓

Please amend the claims as indicated below. All pending claims are reproduced for convenience.

--1. (Amended) A method of inhibiting hair growth, which comprises topically administering to an affected area of a subject in need thereof an inhibitor of elastase-like enzymes or a neutral endopeptidase inhibitor.